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In conference with Carl Macek
August 23rd, 1986
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(TENGU) is there going to be any new series starting ?

(Carl Macek) Robotech II is scheduled to be released as soon as our toy licensee comes up with the financing to put the series on television.

(craig mercer) when can we expect to see Capt Harlock?

(Carl Macek) Captain Harlock and the Queen of a 1000 years (sic) is completed. It is presently shown in 15 major TV markets, video sale is in the works. Where do you live?

(craig mercer) cincinnati, ohio

(Carl Macek) The closest area to ohio that Harlock is playing is either Boston or Dallas or Chicago --- there may be fans who have taped the series. The last 40 episodes are great.

(C.R.) Is there an album, tape or CD with the Macross music (lyrics English OR Jap)?

(Carl Macek) There are numerous albums from the original Japanese series available through retailers such as Books Nippon in LA. There is a deal pending to bring the robotech series soundtrack to record stores in the near future.

(MICHAEL BELL) CARL, WHAT WAS YOUR BASIC INSPIRATION FOR PRODUCING THE ROBOTECH SERIES?

(Carl Macek) Dune and the original Japanese material which we adapted.

(CRIS) CARL, WHEN CAN WE EXPECT THE ROBOTECH - THE MOVIE FOR THEATRICAL RELEASE?

(Carl Macek) Robotech The Movie (the untold story) has had a test release in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area. It has played now for a month which is quite remarkable for an animated feature film we are hoping that Cannon

films is confident enough based on this test to give the film a general
release soon. PS. It got a great review in the newspapers and the fan
response was quite enthusiastic.

(Ray Pelzer) Carl, I have a nasty feeling I already know the answer, but
I'm sitting here looking at the original MACROSS Vol.1 tape of a friend's
and wondering if, since it appears that you did ALL the dialog before the
rewrite to include Southern Cross & Mospeada will we EVER see the
completion of the videotape series? P.S. I kinda liked the use of Hiyase
and Yemana (Yamada?) in the original form.

(Carl Macek) When Harmony Gold produced that video tape no one in the
company had any idea what I had in mind for the correct translation of
japanimation it was so well received that our merchandising and
syndication division immediately wanted to sell it as a series. The
original concept was unfortunately buried in the wake of national
television syndication. so in a roundabout answer to your question I do
not think that the rest of the Macross Tape deal will see the light of
day. Harmony Gold has also signed a Video tape company to market Robotech
tapes which will also put a hold on the Macross tapes.

(Ray Pelzer) Carl==> Then you seem to be saying that (a) MACROSS Vol. 1
is a real KEEPER (b) the original tape deal had to be pulled for Robotech
and (c) that the MACROSS version of the dialog WAS completed. So How can
we all bribe you into sneaking out the original stuff side-by-side? (grin)
This friend said that he got the first 3 Robotech tapes which were just
the Booby Trap parts re-looped as Robotech, and hasn't seen any more since
but is VERY afraid that something will go wrong and he'll be left with an
incomplete et.

(Carl Macek) Family Home Entertainment, our Tape licensee went through a
financial re-organization recently and should be putting the Robotech
Series back on schedule. The tape went from not on the charts to becoming

the #14 highest selling video tape in the country recently. (the original
Macross tape sold less than 10,000 copies) Tell your friend not to worry.
Also note that we did some "clean up" work to put Minmei's songs in "sync"
and these newly re-edited versions will be the ones used by Family home
entertainment.

(craig mercer) if the Robotech movie do not do well <text missing> you release it on vidio tape?

(Carl Macek) I think I can guess the rest of Craig's question. As long as
the Robotech movie is released in a specified number of theatres, there
will be a videotape release of the film in dolby stereo.

(MICHAEL BELL) CARL, I HAVE NOTICED SIMILARITIES BETWEEN THE ALPHA FIGHTERS ON ROBOTECH AND A CHARECTER ON A CARTOON I DO (TRANSFORMERS) I AM
CURIOUS, WHERE WAS THE IDEA FOR THE ALPHA FIGHTER CONCEIVED?

(Carl Macek) The similarity between characters from Transformers and Robotech comes in a mecha which we call the veritech fighter and I think
is called "Jet Fire" in the transformers. The original design for the veritech (valkyrie) fighter was done by designers at Studio Nue in Japan.
They were then sold to toy companies like Takatoku which produced a toyline of Macross toys. Takatoku went backrupt and Bandai bought the mold which they offered to Hasbro. Hasbro selected the Veritech fighter
to be part of their transformers toy line. If you'll notice it seems quite different from the rest of the line.

(Dworkin) okay. two q's 1) any chance that the video tapes of ROBOTECH
will ever be out at more than one episode per tape and 2) could you describe ROBOTECH II a bit for us??

(Carl Macek) The decision to market Robotech an episode at a time is due
to the belief that video tapes at a price point below $10.00 will sell more units than tapes sold at 40 to 80 dollars... The profit is generally
the same. just less royalties to pay. So I tend to think that the tapes
will be one at a time so long as the sales are up. They should

release
the tapes in blocks of six. In answering the second question, Robotech
II: The Sentinels deals with the mission of the SDF-3 to voyage to the homeworld of the Robotech Masters and try to bring about a peaceful solution to the inter-galactic war which has begun. What the Robotech Expeditionary Force finds on Tirol, the moon of Fantoma (which is the homeworld of the Robotech Masters) forms the basis of the series. (one
hint: they don't find many live Robotech Masters).

(LONGSHOT) 2 QUESTIONS 1) CAN WE EXPECT TO SEE ANY OTHER SERIES, SUCH AS
ORGUSS AND GUNDAM, IMPORTED IN THE NEAR FUTURE. 2) I'VE HEARD RUMORS OF A
ROBOTECH III. WHAT WOULD THAT BE ABOUT?

(Carl Macek) To answer the last part of your question first, Robotech III
grows out of the plotting for Robotech II. If the series ever gets on the
air is as much a mystery to me as it is to everyone out there. To answer
the first part of your question Harmony Gold is more interested in working
with the animators and Producers of japanimation which we feel is superior
to develop new projects. It is very difficult to get toy manufacturers to
support the dreams of some one as "crazy" as me. They look at the bottom
line and at this point in time "giant robots" are on the way out (from the
toy makers view). So Gundam and Orguss, etc. will have to wait until the
cycle shifts back to "giant Robots" --- I don't think of them as giant robot shows but it seems that everyone else in the industry does.

(TOM MITCHELL) ok. Now that new animation is being created for the Macross
section of ROBOTECH from Tatsunoko Productions, will this new stuff be shown only in the U.S.(as part of ROBOTECH), or will it also be shown in
Japan under the original title of Macross, following their version of the
story? The reason I ask is because I'm sure there is a large group of Japanese Macross fans who would love to see a continuation of their version of the show also I know that HG has had the new animation custom
made for them, but I am sure that the new stuff could be made to fit

the
original Macross plot also (sort of a reversal of what you guys did with
ROBOTECH).

(Carl Macek) This has got to be my last answer. Today is my fifth wedding
anniversary and my wife need to see me. (if you get the point -- we're
having a party).

(TOM MITCHELL) Congratulations!
(CRIS) AHH..CONGRAT!
(craig mercer) Congratulations
(George the <SysOp>) Who does Rick marry???

(Carl Macek) To answer the question, The sentinels takes place ten years
after Macross ends. There is no Macross mecha in the series due to
copyright problems. The characters that are newly created will figure into
any japanese airing of the sentinels. They are vary catious and do not
want to step on any toes in so far as copyright is concerned. Yes Rick and
Lisa Marry. The series will be given the Robotech treatment by the
Japanese. Fare is fare! Thanks again forall your interest in Robotech and
the work done by Harmony Gold. We must do this again.

(George the <SysOp>) Horray! Life is again worth living!

(George the <SysOp>) Well, in closing I'd like to thank Carl for coming by
here. We appreciate it, and hope that you will return again soon (on a day
that isn't your anniversary!) and tell us more about you and your
interesting work! Thank you very much!

(CRIS) YEAH. ITS GREAT TALKING TO YOU..
(LONGSHOT) YES, THANKS CARL
(Ray Pelzer) Carl... PLEASE come back soon!!!!!!
(Dworkin) <applause>
(TOM MITCHELL) Interesting...Thanks Carl!
(craig mercer) thanks Carl!
(Ray Pelzer) (how do I shake his hand over the phone?)
(TOM MITCHELL) Good luck to you and HG!!
(C.R.) Come again sometime! Cheers!
(Ray Pelzer) thanks for stepping above the kiddified animation!!

(George the <SysOp>) Night Carl. Happy Aniversary! And Thank you!

(Carl Macek) Bye and thanks to you all once again on behalf of the rest of
harmony gold.